

Please add the following new claims:

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51. (New) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:  
receiving, from said at least one supplier, a formal commitment to produce a needed  
supply indicated in said constrained forecast.

52. (New) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:  
receiving, from said at least one supplier, a communication when said at least  
one supplier is unable to produce a needed supply indicated in said constrained  
forecast.

53. (New) A method of using an MRP system to facilitate supply chain  
collaboration comprising:  
running an MRP system to generate an unconstrained forecast; and  
running the MRP system to generate a constrained forecast, said constrained  
forecast taking into account at least one supplier capability statement, and said at least  
one supplier capability statement based on a supplier receiving said unconstrained  
forecast.

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